

GROSS (GEO.)

Remarks of Prof. x x x x



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REMARKS BY PROF. GEORGE GROSS, M. D.,
NO. 311 EAST CAPITOL STREET, WASH-
INGTON, D. C., ON A BILL TO PROHIBIT
THE MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF IN-
TOXICATING LIQUORS IN THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA.

DR. GROSS, said :

MR. CHAIRMAN : I appear before your honorable body as a prohibitionist as a beverage and medicine for fifty years, and I desire to erase the word *medical* on the eighth line of the bill, which expects their use for medical, scientific and mechanical purposes; for in disease there is a diminution of that surplus of vitality in all persons to guard against and ward off disease, and all intoxicants and all other poisons still further diminish the vitality and produce disease. Dr. Higginbotham, said : " It is impious to say that alcohol is necessary in any cure " I then ask you as intelligent gentlemen, to grant the prayer of this bill which would make it the model city of the nation, and set a most worthy example to the world. As a radical reform in the theory and practice of medicine is indispensably necessary for the health and longevity of the people, then teach them what health and disease is ; what medicines are ; what alcohol is and its effects and adulterating ; why most physicians use it and all other poisons, as medicines, for nothing but enlightened public sentiment, will ever effect this glorious change. Then men will live until ripe and full of years before they are gathered to their Father, and not be so ready to accept all the good minister says and the doctor prescribes, without knowing the truth of one or the effects of the other. When one says " the Lord giveth and Lord taketh away," and the other precribes alcohol and all other poisons, and destroys

the people, which is charged to the Lord, when he only suffers us to be duped, poisoned, slain and robbed, if we will submit to it after the light and knowledge he has given us, and more we might easily obtain. Then come and reason together and no longer submit to bow the knee to the image of Bael which this poison medical Nebuchadnezzar has set up. Justice and humanity demand that these systems of legalized human butchery, and, as Dr. Chapin says, horrid, unwarranted, murderous quackery should be explained, before truth and science can ever reign. The destruction of a kind and affectionate mother and sister with mercury, arsenic, strychnine, opium, alcohol, etc., in my youth, and being a graduate of the Allopathic and Physio Medical schools, and thoroughly posted in all thers, prompts me to dare to exposes this ignorant and destructive practice.

I attended the great American Medical and Surgical meetings just closed in Washington, where they (like Dr. Bush), acknowledged their ignorance of disease, of its causes and proper remedies, and that their practice is *experiment*; and their main object seemed to be to invent and use instruments and means of torture, and recommended them before it was necessary, for fear that it might become so, which, they said, often proved fatal. In the case of President Garfield, who suffered more human butchery, torture and quackery by daily probing twelve and a half inches in his belly for a ball in his back and soaking him in alcohol, starving and poisoning him until the vitality was destroyed and he died (in my opinion) from the treatment, and in spite of the prayers of a united world, which could not avail against the daily violations of God's immutable laws, even

by one poison doctor, which proves that man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn, and that health is happiness, and disease with poison treatment is suffering and premature death. Dr. Rush said they assisted in multiplying disease and increased its mortality; and Prof. D. S. Gross (whom they all delight to honor), said, as for the real essence of medical science, little is known, indeed, nothing at all. They seemed to fear that *truth* and *science* will dispel their ignorance and quackery, which is a disgrace to the profession and a curse to the world. While he who can teach how to preserve health and cure disease is a real benefactor of his race and should be duly appreciated. All the prescriptions I heard were poisons, and alcohol was chief. As the women are the greatest sufferers from the use of alcohol and all other poisons and torturous quackery, and are first in every good word and work, I fondly anticipate much valuable assistance from them in this most humane reform. The doctors complain that seventy per cent. of obstetric and female cases are treated by women in Cincinnati. It is too bad when the poison doctors try so hard to monopolize their inhuman practice. I have treated scores of the most desperate cases of obstetrics and female complaints, and have not lost a case in fifty years' practice, which gave me that chair in our medical college in New York City.

These poison systems we protest
By nature's God were never blest;
Although in tears we must confess
They haste their thousand souls to rest.

Then what is health and how is it to be preserved? All scientists tell us that the *ability* of all the organs of the body to perform their natural offices constitutes a state of health, and only requires wholesome food, pure water and air, suitable clothing, proper exercise and rest to keep up a healthy action and carry off all of its wastes and impurities. But from one hundred and one violations of nature's laws some of the organs of the body become obstructed and inactive, and its impurities are retained in it, which produces an *inability* of some organs to perform their natural offices, which *inability* is the disease, and has a variety of form and causes.

Then, by equalizing the circulation and nervous action with sanative vegetable remedies, will remove those obstructions and impurities and restore a natural state or condition without any poison or disease left in the system to mar their happiness and shorten their lives. Now, what are medicines? The word medicine was taken from the Latin word *medicina*, from *medeo* to cure disease. And as all poisons destroy the vitality and produce disease, and never cure it, then poisons are not medicines or remedies for disease, and are used by doctors to produce and not to cure diseases as we will show. Then, what is alcohol? All agree that it is the intoxicating principle in all spirituous liquors, and is not in anything in nature, but is produced by vinous fermentation and distillation of various fruits and grains which destroys their nutritious and stimulating properties and converts them into a poison which produces irritation, inflammation, ulceration, mortification, scrofula, cancer, &c., of the stomach and similar effects upon all other organs of the system. It coagulates the fluids and corrugates the solids and contracts the nerves and other viscerait touches, and deprives them of *sense* and *motion*, and, like opium and tobacco, impairs the brain and intellect, depraves the appetites and passions, and are foolish filthy, expensive, and very injurious habits and beneath the dignity of men to use them; for they degrade him as much below the brute as he is elevated above by nature; and it dissolves the gastric juice and prevents digestion, absorption, and nutrition, and produces all forms of disease.

The word *intoxicate* was taken from the Latin *toxicum*, or *toxa*, to poison; then all intoxicants are narcotic irritant poisons. A narcotic produces stupor, coma, convulsions, and death; an irritant produces a *vitiated* and abnormal state or condition; while a pure vegetable *stimulant* increases the *vital* energy and strength of action. All poisons produce a morbid, noxious and dangerous effect, and destroy the vitality on which health and life depends. They also use strychnine, stramonium, belladonna, fusil oil, cocculus indicus, opium, tobacco, &c., as narcotics; sulphuric and prussic acids, aquafortis, spirits of nitre, oil of

vitriol, oil of turpentine, red bugs, black ants, and Spanish flies &c., as irritants, tannic acid, alum, copperas, sulphate of iron and copper, as astringents; nitrate and caustic potash and sugar of lead, &c., to correct taste in their adulterations, which are deadly vegetable, animal, and mineral poisons, and still the people swallow them because the doctor says so, when the doctor is the most ignorant man on earth of his own business, and by keeping the people so, he can poison, slay and rob them.

Oh, what guardians over the health and lives of the people! And if no drunkard can enter the kingdom of heaven, where will *such* drunkard makers appear? All the motions of the body are carried on by alternate relaxation and contraction, and are kept up by the stimulous and nutrition of food, water, and air, which replenish and purify the blood that circulates to all parts of the system, and nourish and strengthen it, and keep up that warmth of vitality on which life and health depends; and he who takes blood, or destroys the digestive process which produces it, (as alcohol and all other poisons do,) is a vile enemy of the sick, and should be regarded as an ignorant *criminal*, instead of being honored as a man of science and skill, for it is the ignorance and dishonesty of the doctors which is the destruction of the people.

Why do most physicians use alcohol and all other poisonous medicines? Because it is according to their theory and teachings. Then, what do they teach? The word allopathy was taken from two Greek words *allos*, other, and *pathos*, morbid condition. The allopaths and homœopaths both teach that *another* and a *greater* disease must be produced with medicines. The allopaths of a *contrary* and the homœopaths of a *similar* nature, as the allopathic practice is founded on the law of *contrarii, contrarius, curantur*, and the homœopaths on the law of *similia, similibus, curantur*. Both also teach that the most virulent *poisons* are their *best* medicines. *Ubi virus ibi virtus*, where poison is there is virtue. Both further agree that fever or inflammation is disease, and must be subdued, and both use the most deadly poisons, which destroy

the vitality and too often kill the patient when the fever is only an effort of nature to remove the *cause* of disease. So you see that they do not discard poisons because they are poisons, and produce disease, but both use them because they are poisonous, and *do* produce disease. So both are systems of disease *making* with poisons. The allopaths also teach that there are from seven to eleven hundred diseases, and they require *heroic* remedies, which certainly are like the Cæsars and Alexanders of old, powerful to destroy, heroic in blood and havoc and devastation. Drs. Hooper, Hunter, and others say that *medicine* never changes the morbid to a healthy condition; that is *alone* the work of nature, and Dr. Rush says the *only* reason people live under such treatment is because nature can withstand the disease and their treatment also. These statements laid the foundation of homœopathy, which was to dupe the people more and poison them less, and let nature perform the cure unopposed, and the little sugar pills have the credit; but most of them are what Hahnemann calls *monoprels*, who use as much poisons as, and are but small children of, allopathy and no more worthy of confidence. They teach that disease is a *spiritual* change of the animal economy; that the *symptoms* of disease is the disease itself, and that it is solely the morbidly-affected *vital principle* which brings forth disease, and how the *vital principle* produces disease is a useless question which cannot be answered. I answer, that it never *does* produce disease but puts forth an effort to remove the *cause* of disease, for disease is a *state or condition* and not an *action*, and it is the vital principle which produces the *remedial action*. He only mistakes the *vital action* for the diseased *condition*, that is all. Again, they tell us that a *cure* can *never* be obtained but by a morbid power that will produce symptoms *similar* and a little stronger, and that physical and moral disease are cured in the same manner. Again, if we wish to destroy the *entire* disease we should use a medicine which will produce symptoms similar or opposite, which experience proves the easiest and safest. This is *only* a little *contradiction*.

Again, they teach that the smallest dose possible is always the best, and should not be repeated until its full effects are realized, which often requires from fourteen to one hundred days, and that its effects are as beneficial by once *smelling* a little sugar pill as often as taken above.

Is it any wonder then that Dr. Herring, author of Hahnemann's *Organon*, should say that he never accepted a single theory in the *Organon* as therein promulgated? If the people were properly informed, they would not only discard the theories, but the practice of all who use alcohol and other poisons as medicines. Well might Drs. Eberly, Barton, Hayes, Bigelow, Whiting, Waterhouse, Rush, Chapman, Sewell, Robinson, Curtis, Hooper, Gross, and hosts of others say, that opium, mercury, alcohol, and all other poisons *always act* perniciously, and destroy more lives than pestilence, famine, and the sword: that medicine as taught in the schools is not science, and their practice is not art, their doctrines are false, and are hypotheses piled on hypotheses, and absurdity, contradiction, and falsehood, and were conceived, born, and schooled in ignorance, and their practice is barbarous, ignorant, and inhuman; when *true* medical science teaches the art of *preventing* and *curing* disease, and a physician is one *skilled* in that art, and not one who produces a *greater* disease with alcohol and other *poisons*, which should be prohibited by law.

St. Paul tells us that the intoxicating cup is the devil's cup, and its use is always devilish; but the opposite is the Lord's cup, the cup of blessing, the communion of the blood of Christ.

I regret that I cannot now explain this important subject more fully, but I am writing another, of twenty thousand copies, for gratuitous distribution, explaining *all* schools of medicine, their treatment and their effects, (including rum and tobacco), to enlighten the people and dispel ignorance and quackery, and serve God acceptably, and enjoy the luxury of doing good.

From my success with nature's harmless remedies in cholera, typhoid, yellow, scarlet, and puerperal fevers, consumption, diphtheria, putrid erysipelas, croup, asthma, rheumatism, inebriation, Bright's disease, etc., etc., without rum or any other poisons, I received a gold medal in 1842, and a gold watch and chain for philanthropy, perseverance and skill in 1858, and my own likeness for voluntary, kind and skillful treatment in 1861, requesting it to be placed in the Capitol in Washington, D. C., and that our practice be introduced in the army as an act of justice and humanity to the soldiers. Now let us come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty, and seek and speak the truth and dare to do right, knowing that with the sword of truth and the approbation of heaven, one can drive a thousand and put ten thousand to flight. Then let us rejoice and take courage, for in due time we will reap if we faint not. Let us all dispense with rum and tobacco and all other poisons which produce disease, but aid nature to subdue disease and all fevers and appetites for strong drink, in from twelve to forty-eight hours with inoffensive remedies, when the valetudinarian will rejoice and the wives and children will be exceeding glad, and all will unite in singing, "Oh, how happy are they who their Saviour obey."

I propose to donate fifty acres of choice fruit and garden land for an inebriate asylum, and most of a large house and ten acres of fine land for a female hospital and free school for the medical education of women and a training school for nurses, where all schools of medicine will be taught and pure *sanitive* vegetable family medicines for all forms of disease, without alcohol or other poisons, will be kept, wholesale or retail; if others will aid in this humane enterprise where great good can be done and money made also.

N. B.—I will go to any place and explain this important subject more fully by merely having my expenses paid.

Anyone publishing this will please send me a copy.

